

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 7155

BILL NUMBER: HB 1834

NOTE PREPARED: Dec 23, 2004

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Parking Tickets and Small Claims Costs Fees.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. Austin

FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL
X DEDICATED
FEDERAL

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: This bill has the following provisions:

(A) It provides that the clerk of an ordinance violations bureau may send a notice to a person informing the person of the potential for suspension of the person's motor vehicle registration based upon the failure of the person to pay judgments for multiple violations of parking ordinances.

(B) It exempts municipalities from paying the small claims costs fee.

Effective Date: July 1, 2005.

Explanation of State Expenditures:

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures: *Provision A* would shift the cost of notification for three unpaid parking violations from the clerk of the circuit court to municipal ordinance violations bureaus. In CY 2003, 28 counties reported having established local ordinance violations bureaus that disposed of one or more municipal violations through the bureau.

Each one-ounce certified letter with a return receipt costs the clerk of the circuit court \$4.42. If the municipality enforcing these parking violations notified parking violators by certified mail with a return receipt, as the bill

would allow, the municipality's bureau would incur the postage cost instead of the clerk of the circuit court.

Explanation of Local Revenues: *Provision B:* IC 33-37-3-1 prohibits collection of fees from the state or a political subdivision in civil actions or paternity actions when it is brought by or on behalf of the state or political subdivision. Clerks of the circuit court have historically used this section to exempt municipal agencies and other governmental corporations from the \$35 filing fee in small claims court. To the extent that the bill would formalize and clarify this exemption, the bill would have minimal fiscal impact.

State Agencies Affected:

Local Agencies Affected: Municipalities and local units of government.

Information Sources: *2003 Indiana Judicial Report*; Charles Pride, State Board of Accounts.

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